

I singing and dancing was all my delight,  
; there I would tarry from morning till night,  
I would have the musick unto me to play,  
and thus I did tittle my money away:  
I should have a Girl to sit on my knee,  
Such foolish fancies have beggered me.  
For surely I thought, &c.

But my wife and children I left them at home,  
Still waiting and wailing when I did come,  
For bying them provision; cloaths to their back,  
For I knew very well that such things I did lack.  
But though I did know it, I never took care,  
Though their bellies did pinch, and their backs did  
Tho I had but liquor to fill up my skin, (go bare,  
I never regarded what case they were in.

And when that I late did come home in the night,  
With my wife & my children strait would I fight  
And as soon as I put my foot within the doo,  
I should out with my purse, & call my wife to me.

At these urging speeches she would sit and cry,  
The more silly kinsal and Drunkard was I.  
For to abuse her that was my best friend,  
But now I am resolv'd in time for to mend.

For I see if a man do spend all that he have,  
at last they will count him but a drunken knave  
They will point their fingers as he doth passe by,  
saying, there goes a drunkard, and so he will die:  
Therefore all good husbands, take warning by me  
Lest that you do bying your selves to poverty.  
For surely I thought, &c

For the other day as I pass up the town,  
I met with my Wife in her silk gown,  
With the knees of my breeches and elbows out,  
but she was so ready to give me a scout.  
I could not get a flaggon of bre: at her hands,  
Tho with her I had spent my houses and lands.

It made me to sigh, and am ready to cry,  
O what an ill husband and drunkard was I.  
But if I had been rul'd by my wife at the first,  
I might a had silver and gold in my purse, (purse)  
To maintain good House keeping, and children at  
but I hope it will mend now it is at the worst;  
I am resolv'd now to lead a new life.  
And ever be loving and kind to my wife;  
For it makes me to sigh, and am ready to cry,  
O what, &c.

Now I am resolv'd a new life to begin; (spin,  
the Ale-wife shall card, and her daughter shall  
Before I will be any more such a mome,  
I le be a good husband, and tarry at home:  
It is not their fair speeches shall me intice,  
For bying me again into fools Paradise.  
For it makes me to sigh, and am ready to cry,  
O what, &c.

Youngmen and husbands take warning by me,  
Lest that you do bying your selves to poverty,  
And in your expences pray be not too bold,  
but lay up your money against you be old:  
Be sure do not spend your money in vain, (vain)  
But keep it in your Purse, your charge to main,  
Then you will not be forc'd to sigh and to cry,  
O what, &c.

Concluding these verses which here I have pen'd,  
I hope that no honest man here I offend,  
Then read them, & buy them, & bear them away,  
and like to me do not wander astray:  
The price is a penny, and it is not dear,  
For there is many a penny spent worse in the year;  
And if that you chance to take warning by it,  
I think you'll be an excellent penny-worth of wit.

FINIS.

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